

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated June 6, 2005. In that Action, Claims 2-7, 15-18, and 20-33 were rejected, and claims 8-14 were indicated as having allowable subject matter. In this amendment, formerly withdrawn claim 1, and rejected claims 2-7, 15-18, and 20-33 are canceled without prejudice. Claim 19 was canceled previously. Currently, claims 8-14 are pending in this application. Applicants will file a continuation application addressing the rejected claims.

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and includes all the limitations of its canceled base claim 2. Accordingly, claim 8 is now allowable. Claim 9-14 depend from claim 8 and are now allowable for the same reasons as claim 8. Accordingly, Applicants contend that this application is in condition for allowance.

Changes to the Claims:

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and incorporates the limitations of now canceled claim 2. The following additional changes have been made to claim 8 for the sake of clarity. Two instances of the word “or” have been replaced with the word “and.” The words “the surface of” prior to the term “said first deformed surface” have been removed. The word “the” prior to the term “magnetic interaction” has been removed. The word “the” prior to the term “blades of the impeller” has been removed. The above changes have been entered for the sake of clarity and do not change the scope of the claim.

In claim 11, the word “at” has been inserted before the term “at least one end” for the sake of clarity. Also in claim 11, the word “said” has been inserted before the word “impeller”

and before the term "thrust forces" to unambiguously refer back to these previously introduced terms. In claim 12, the word "an" has been inserted in place of the word "the" to more clearly introduce the term "axial bearing." No new matter has been entered.

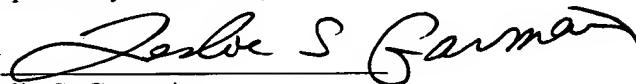
Conclusion:

A check for a one-month extension of time in the amount of \$120 is enclosed. It is not believed that any further fees are due. However, the Office is authorized to deduct any additional fees believed due from, or to credit any overpayment to, our deposit account No. 11-0223. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

We respectfully request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned if there are any further issues preventing the case from being passed to allowance.

Dated: September 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Leslie S. Garmaise
Registration No.: 47,587
KAPLAN & GILMAN, L.L.P.
900 Route 9 North
Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095
(732) 634-7634
Attorneys for Applicant